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Proposed Claim 1

1. A method for transmitting a data stream between a host controller and a peripheral device over an extended distance; said method comprising:
  - a. feeding a first original, outgoing digital signal from a host controller to a local expander unit;
  - b. transmitting said outgoing signal as a outgoing transmission signal, over a signal distribution system;
  - c. receiving said outgoing transmission signal at a remote expander unit;
  - d. delivering said first original outgoing digital signal from said remote expander to at least one peripheral device;
  - e. receiving, at said remote expander, a reply digital signal from said peripheral device;
  - f. transmitting said reply digital signal as a reply transmission signal over said signal distribution system;
  - g. receiving said reply transmission signal at said local expander;
  - h. storing said reply digital signal as a stored reply digital signal until the receipt of a subsequent original, outgoing digital signal from said host controller, which subsequent signal is the same as, or similar to, said first original outgoing digital signal; and
  - i. forwarding said stored reply digital signal to said host controller in response to said subsequent original outgoing digital signal.